



S/N 08/949,366

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SORENSEN ET AL. Examiner: K. NOLAND  
Serial No.: 08/949,366 Group Art Unit: 3651  
Filed: OCTOBER 14, 1997 Docket No.: 424.83US01  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR VENDING PRODUCTS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 14, 2000.

By: *Charles E. Golla*  
Name: Charles E. Golla

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This Amendment and Response is being submitted in reply to the Official Action dated July 14, 1999. An appropriate extension of time and accompanying fee are being provided herewith.

Please amend the application as follows.

In the claims

Please amend claims 1, 27, 37 and 65 as follows:

1. (Once Amended) A method for vending beverages packaged in sealed containers, comprising:

- a. storing a plurality of packaged beverages in upright standing manner in selectable queues of containers of such beverages within a vending machine;
- b. [aligning a robotic assembly in the machine in registration with a customer selected one of said beverage container queues;] visually presenting said selectable queues of such beverage containers for viewing by a customer through a glass wall panel of the vending machine; wherein the customer can visually select a beverage container from one of said selectable queues;